WEIRD ADVENTURES ON OTHER WORLDS—THE UNIVERSE OF THE FUTURE
PLANET COMICS
No. 13
JULY
10¢
FLINT BAKER, SPACE-SOLDIER, BATTLES
THE BRUTE OF MARS
ALSO
THE STAR PIRATE
AURO—LORD OF JUPITER
CAPT. NELSON COLE
AND OTHERS
ZOLNE ROWICH

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FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINES

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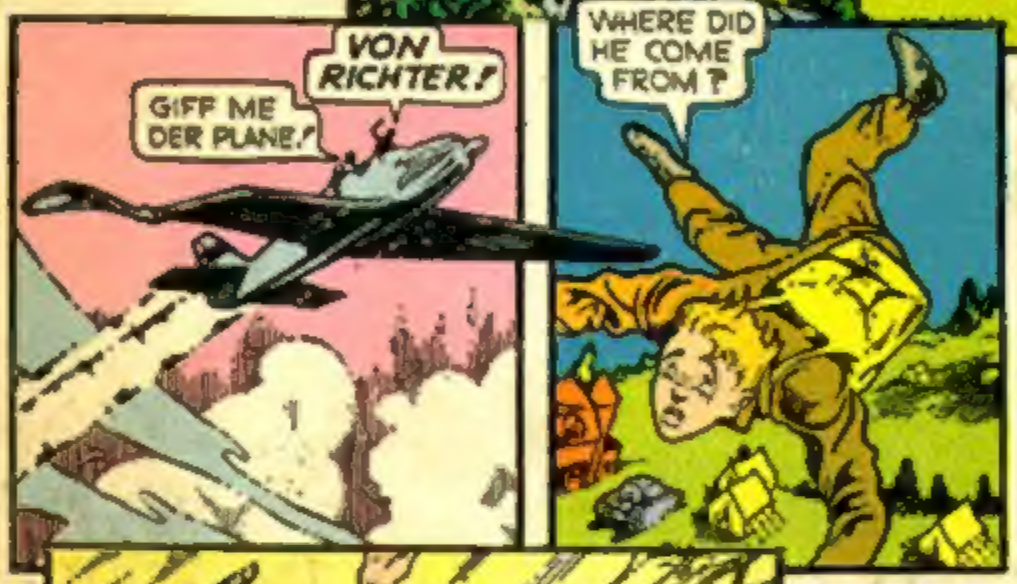
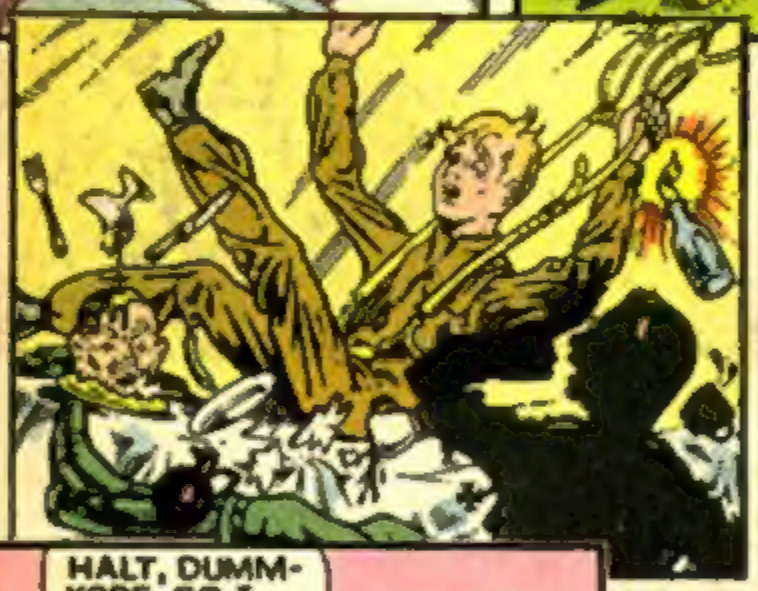
ZOLNEROWICH

Led by VON RICHTER, famous ace, Nazi planes bomb Greasemonkey Griffin's airfield. R.A.F. fighters roar into action . . .

THE NAZI SURRENDERS AS THE BRITISH RUN UP.
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A LOOK AT ONE OF THESE BOATS.. NOW'S MY CHANCE!
HEINKEL
OOPS!
HE CLIMBS IN AND..
GREASEMONKEY IS IN THE AIR! A STABILIZER CATCHES VON RICHTER...



VON RICHTER is shot down, one wing badly damaged. First to arrive on the scene is the freckled-faced screwball, Greasemonkey Griffin. Curiosity that killed the cat draws the kid mechanic into the Heinkel's entrancing cockpit. A touch on the wrong knob sends the crippled Nazi plane staggering aloft. And hooked to the stabilizer is the wild-eyed Von Richter.



SOME instinct turns Greasemonkey's head in time to spot the furious Nazi ace getting set to conk him. No place for me, decides Greasemonkey, and over he leaps . . . only to parachute into the midst of two Nazi generals who are sumptuously dining. Wasting no time at all, the irate Nazis take after him with carving knives and other weapons. Poor Greasemonkey Griffin—afoot in the midst of occupied France with half the Nazi general staff on his trail!

DOES he get away? Does he get back to his kitchen patrol duty among the unpeeled spuds? You'll find the answer in the June issue of WINGS COMICS. Other exciting features include The Skull Squad, Clipper Kirk, The Parachute Patrol, F-4 of the Air Intelligence, Suicide Smith, and many others.

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THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS (No. 14, SEPT.) WILL BE ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND JULY 10th.

THE RED COMET

By Cy Thatcher

THE RED COMET, GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR FROM EARTH, ARRIVES AT NARU, A CITY OF ICY SPLENDOR ON THE PLANET URANUS.

HE IS ANNOUNCED AT THE ROYAL PALACE.

THE RED COMET DESIRES AUDIENCE, SIR!

WHY IS ZORIX ON THE THRONE?

WHERE IS MY FRIEND, QUEEN LURA?

DID HE SEE ME HIDE THE CRYSTAL GLOBE?

LURA WAS LOST IN THE ICE MOUNTAINS! NOW I RULE HERE!

DIDN'T YOU SEARCH FOR HER?
NO ONE BUT A FOOL DARES GO INTO THE LAND OF THE ICE-MEN...

RED COMET LEAVES NARU.
THE COWARD! I'LL FIND LURA... IF SHE LIVES!

HE SPEEDS FAR INTO THE ICE MOUNTAINS.
PERHAPS LURA LIES WOUNDED IN SOME HIDDEN CREVASSE!

SUDDENLY MURDEROUS ICE-MEN SEE RED COMET!

THEY SWOOP DOWN ON THEIR SKI-SHAPED FEET!

THEIR POISONED ICICLE SPEARS FILL THE AIR....

GANG UP ON ME, WILL YOU!

A SPEAR FINDS ITS TARGET!

RED COMET FALLS, DRUGGED BY THE SPEAR'S POISON...

HE'S STILL ALIVE!

TAKE HIM TO OUR CITY!

WAIT TILL THE OTHERS SEE OUR CATCH!

TOMORROW WE'LL KILL HIM BY SLOW TORTURE!

THROW HIM IN THE DUNGEON FOR TONIGHT!

Meanwhile IN NARU...

I WILL RELEASE RELEASE YOU, LURA, IF YOU WILL TELL ME WHERE THE TREASURE IS!

NEVER!

ZORIX SHRINKS THE GLOBE!

NOW, WILL YOU TELL?

NO!

ZORIX SEIZES THE CRYSTAL BALL IN A FURY...

CURSE YOU, LURA!

KEEP YOUR SECRET...

BEGONE!

THE MAGIC GLOBE BREAKS THROUGH THE CASEMENT AND SAILS THROUGH THE AIR UNBROKEN!

WAIT! COME BACK!

But IT FLOATS OUT TOWARD THE ICE MOUNTAINS...

ZORIX RUSHES INSIDE AND COMMANDS HIS BIRD...

GO! BRING ME BACK THE CRYSTAL!

THE GIANT BIRD FLIES IN SWIFT PURSUIT.

AS ITS TALONS CLUTCH THE GLOBE, ICE-MEN SEE IT!

SHOOT IT DOWN!

FOOD!

A SPEAR KILLS THE BIRD....

RED COMET HEARS THE JUBILANT HUNTERS FROM HIS CELL AND LOOKS OUT..

CAN THAT BE LURA?

IT'S LURA, BUT HOW DID SHE GET SO TINY?

SHE IS MAGIC! WE'LL HANG HER IN THE GREAT HALL!

THE ICE-MEN WORSHIP THE MAGIC CRYSTAL.

RED COMET EXPANDS TO GIANT SIZE.....

HE CRASHES OUT OF HIS PRISON AND INTO THE GREAT WALL!

HE REACHES UP AND GRASPS THE GLOBE...

SEEKING POWER AND NARU'S TREASURE, ZORIX PUT ME IN HERE BY HIS MAGIC!

LURA! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

CARRYING LURA, RED COMET BREAKS OUT OF THE BUILDING.

ENRAGED ICE-MEN FOLLOW, THROWING A HAIL OF SPEARS....

FINALLY RED COMET OUT-DISTANCES THEM AS HE APPROACHES NARU.

HE ASSUMES NORMAL SIZE BEFORE ENTERING THE PALACE...

GUARDS BAR THE WAY...

I'M LOOKING FOR ZORIX!

YOU CAN'T GO IN!

I HAVEN'T TIME TO ARGUE, BUD!

THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO!

RED COMET RUSHES INTO THE THRONE ROOM....

SURPRISED TO SEE ME, ZORIX?

AND NOW, ZORIX, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE TALK!

ARE YOU GOING TO RELEASE LURA OR WILL I HAVE TO KILL YOU....THE HARD WAY?

STOP! I'LL FREE HER!

ZORIX MUTTERS A SPELL.

EBOLG EHTNI OG TEMOC DER!

BUT INSTANTLY RED COMET BECOMES TINY AND IS PUT IN WITH LURA!

ZORIX GLOATS....

SO THE LITTLE EARTHMAN IS GOING TO KILL ZORIX! HA!

RED COMET CALLS ON HIS POWER TO GROW!

HE STRAINS EVERY MUSCLE TO THE BREAKING POINT...

THE MAGIC GLOBE SHATTERS AND THE SPELL IS BROKEN!

YOU'RE TOO FOXY FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, ZORIX!

CRUSHING LEFT HOOK SENDS ZORX REELING BACK AGAINST A TABLE!

HE GRABS UP A VIAL AND THROWS IT AT RED COMET

UNDER COVER OF THE SMOKE HE RUNS THROUGH AN ARCHWAY.

RED COMET FOLLOWS INTO A VAULT-LIKE ROOM..

THE ROOM'S EMPTY!

ZORX HAS ENTOMBED HIMSELF IN ONE OF HIS OWN MAGIC SPHERES....

HE CAN'T GET ME NOW!

BAM! RED COMET SEES HIM!

AH! YOU WILL NEED MORE THAN YOUR SORCERY TO SAVE YOU NOW, ZORX.

RED COMET SEIZES THE BALL AND RUNS TO THE BALCONY....

WITH A MIGHTY HEAVE, HE HURLS ZORIX SCREAMING TOWARD OBLIVION.....

RED COMET AND LURA WATCH THE EVIL WIZARD DISAPPEAR, HOPING HE WILL NEVER RETURN....

THE RED COMET WHIZZES THROUGH STARTLING ACTION IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

CRASH PARKER

By S A SELWYN

CRASH PARKER TAKES OFF FROM EARTH ON A SPECIAL TRIP TO TARM, CITY IN THE TWILIGHT BAND OF MERCURY. HIS LONE PASSENGER IS PRINCESS VONA, WHO IS TO BE CROWNED QUEEN OF TARM.. HER FATHER, KING DEORC, HAVING JUST DIED.

CRASH HEADS FOR MERCURY.

SO THAT'S WHAT A PRINCESS LOOKS LIKE! AND I THOUGHT I WAS LUCKY TO GET THIS JOB!

SUDDENLY THE TELEVISOR SCREEN FLASHES ON... IT IS A MESSAGE FROM TARM..

LAND OUTSIDE CITY.. PLOT AGAINST VONA... MILITARY ESCORT WILL MEET YOU...

REACHING THE LAND OF ETERNAL TWILIGHT THEY LAND IN A JUNGLE NEAR TARM...

CRASH STARTS TO PUSH VONA'S WHEEL-CHAIR OUT.

WAIT!

DIFFERENCES IN CLIMATE AND GRAVITY MADE ME WEAR THESE!

WOW!

YOU CAN SEE HOW DIFFERENT CONDITIONS ARE ON MERCURY!

I'LL SAY!

I'M AFRAID I SEEMED GLOOMY ON THE TRIP!

I'LL TRY TO FORGIVE YOU!

SUDDENLY TENDRILS RISE FROM THE GROUND....

LOOK OUT! A KLOCCIAL!

THE PLANT FASTENS ON CRASH'S ROCKET SHIP!

I CAN'T USE MY RAY-GUN, I'D RUIN THE SHIP!

A MURDEROUS TENDRIL COILS AROUND CRASH.

YOU'LL BE KILLED!

AS THEY FIGHT THE DEVILISH TENTACLES, TARMIANS RUSH UP!

SAVE US!

BUT IGNORING CRASH, THE WINGED MERCURIANS GRAB VONA....

STOP! YOU ARE MY SUBJECTS!

NO! OTOG IS KING!

LEAVING CRASH TO HIS FATE, THEY FLY OFF WITH VONA.

CRASH STRUGGLES DESPERATELY...

SEVERING A TENDRIL HE BLASTS THE HEART OF THE FIENDISH PLANT.....

THE PULL OF GRAVITY BEING LESS THAN EARTH'S, CRASH BOUNDS IN PURSUIT.

HE CATCHES UP WITH VONA'S ABDUCTORS AS THEY ENTER TARM.

CRASH PUSHES THROUGH TARM'S MAIN GATE....

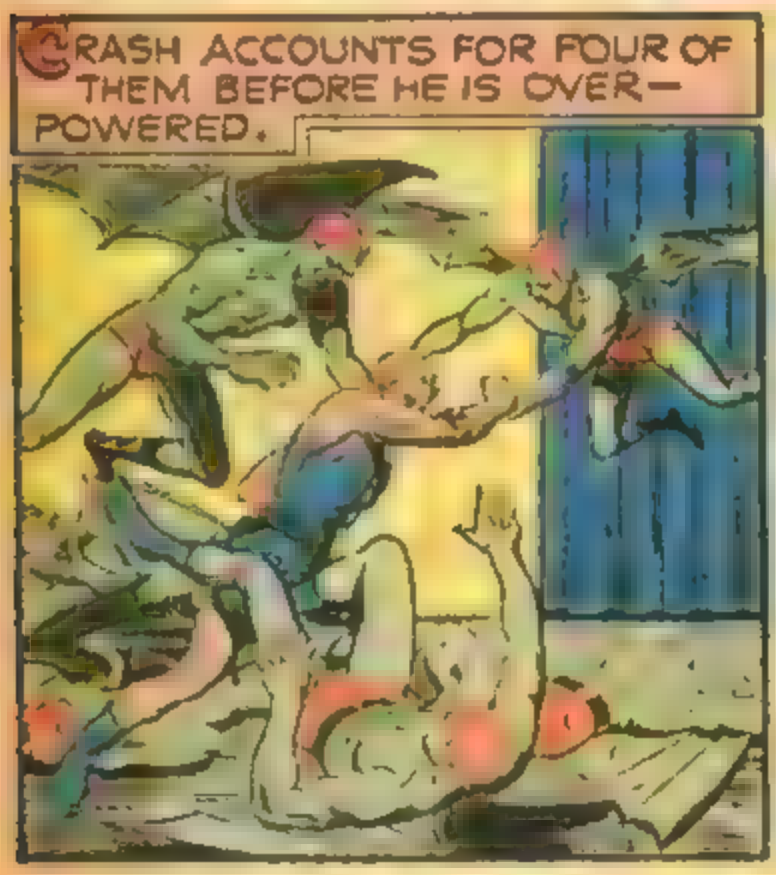
AT ONCE HE IS SEIZED BY OTOG'S GUARDS.

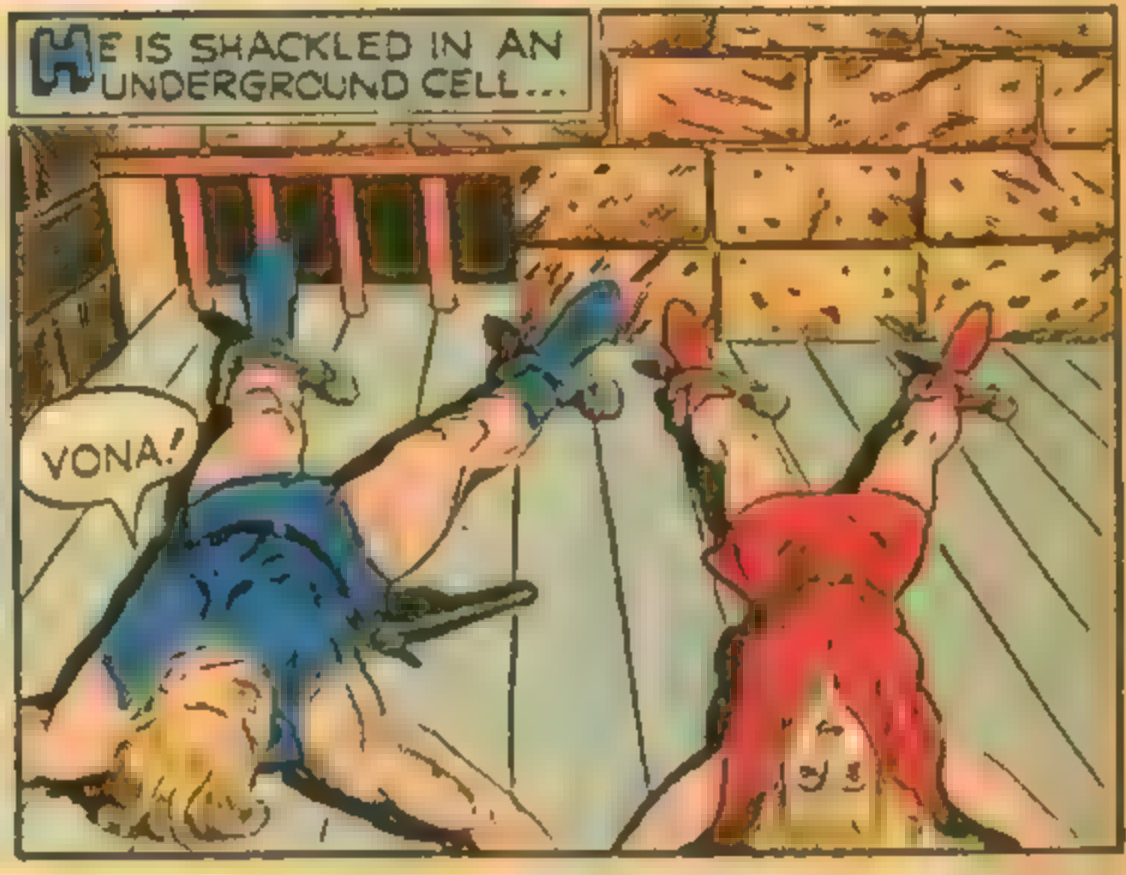
CRASH IS TAKEN TO THE PHOSPHORESCENT CITY'S PALACE.

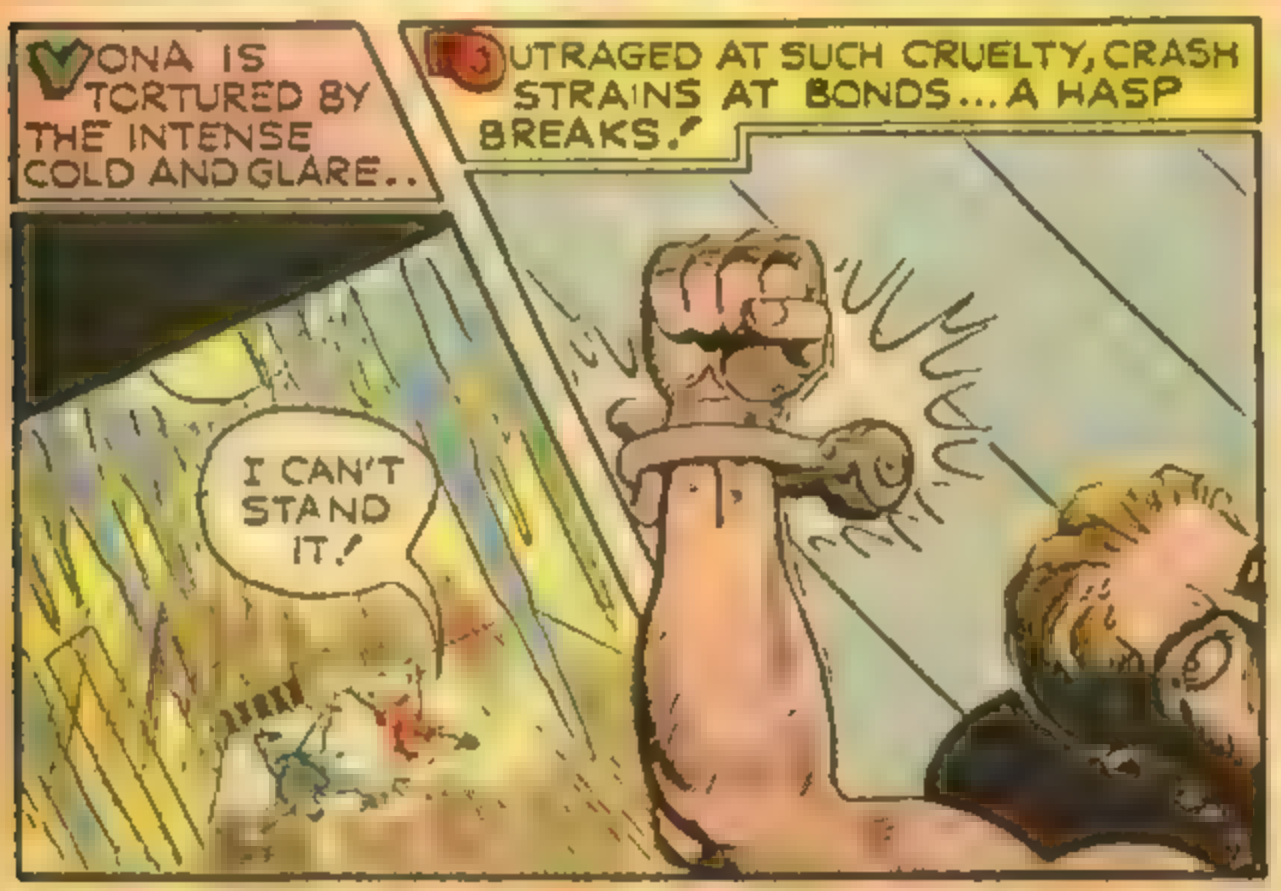
CRASH IS HAULED BEFORE O'OG...
RELEASE VONA!

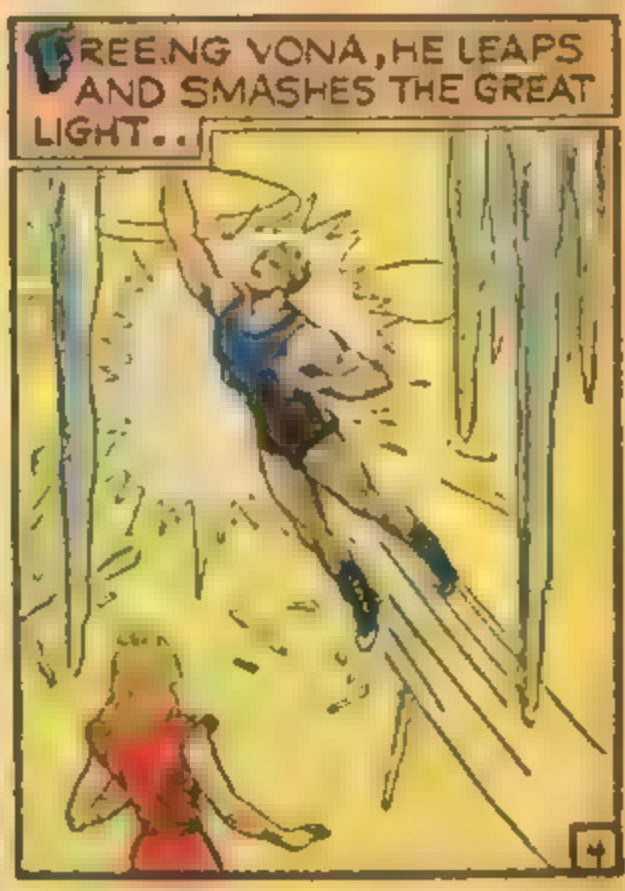
IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'LL GO BACK TO EARTH!
NOT UNTIL VONA IS QUEEN!

GUARDS! THROW THIS FOOL INTO THE DUNGEON!


CRASH ACCOUNTS FOR FOUR OF THEM BEFORE HE IS OVER-POWERED.


HE IS SHACKLED IN AN UNDERGROUND CELL...
VONA!


VONA IS TORTURED BY THE INTENSE COLD AND GLARE..
I CAN'T STAND IT!
OUTRAGED AT SUCH CRUELTY, CRASH STRAINS AT BONDS... A HASP BREAKS!


FREEING VONA, HE LEAPS AND SMASHES THE GREAT LIGHT..

ESCAPING FROM THE DUNGEON, THEY RUN TO THE FRONT OF THE PALACE....

OTOG IS ADDRESSING THE ASSEMBLED TARMIANS.

VONA CRASHED ON HER WAY FROM EARTH! I WILL RULE TARM!

YOU LIE, OTOG!

DOWN WITH THE TRAITORS!

LOYAL TARMIANS, SEEING VONA ALIVE, ATTACK OTOG'S MEN!

RELEASE THE FLEGS!

GATE IS OPENED AND SAVAGE FLEGS RUSH N

OTOG HAS CAPTURED THE MONSTERS IN THE DARKEST PART OF MERCURY.

THE MURDEROUS BEASTS SWARM DOWN ON THE FIGHTING TARMIANS.

CRASH FIGHTS HIS WAY TO OTOG..

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS!

HE THROWS THE TRAITOR TO THE VICIOUS FLEGS!

VONA CALLS OUT...

OTOG IS DEAD! TARMIANS, UNITE!

JOINING FORCES THE TARMIANS DRIVE OFF THE FLEGS.

IN A MAGNIFICENT CEREMONY, VONA IS CROWNED QUEEN...

CRASH, STAY HERE, WITH US!

CRASH PARKER FINDS NEW ADVENTURES ON MERCURY IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

REEF RYAN

REEF RYAN, FEARLESS EXPLORER FROM EARTH, LANDS ON BARREN NEPTUNE. ARMED WITH HIS SPLIT-ATOM POWERED HARPOON GUN, REEF HAS CALCULATED THAT THERE MAY BE LIFE UNDER THE PLANET'S SURFACE...

BY HUGH FITZHUGH

THROUGH A FISSURE IN NEPTUNE'S SURFACE, REEF WANDERS THROUGH WEIRD CAVERNS...

I RECKON I'M TEN MILES DEEP BY NOW... MAYBE I WAS WRONG AFTER ALL.

SUDDENLY, HUGE BATS DROP DOWN AND BEAT REEF WITH THEIR WINGS TOWARD AN OPENING

REEF FALLS

DOWN

LUNDREDS OF FEET DOWN, REEF PLUNGES INTO A MYSTERIOUS SEA...

WHAT KIND OF A PLANET IS THIS? GUESS I SHOULD HAVE STAYED HOME!

REEF DRAWS HIS HIGH-VOLTAGE HARPOON GUN AND FIRES.....

THE PARALYZING HARPOON STRIKES!

IN ITS DEATH THROES THE SERPENT GRIPS REEF AND REGINS TO SINK...

A STRANGE BOAT APPEARS ABOVE..A TRIDENT SNARES THE MONSTER....

VARA, THIS MAN IS NOT OF OUR WORLD!

MAYBE HE WILL HELP US, FATHER!

WHO ARE YOU, STRANGER? WHENCE DO YOU COME?

I AM REEF RYAN FROM EARTH!

EARTH?

AN OLD LEGEND TELLS THAT OUR PEOPLE CAME HERE FROM A FAR-OFF PLACE...IT MUST BE 'EARTH.'

PROBABLY ON ONE OF THE FIRST ROCKET TRANSPORTS. THEY SOMETIMES WENT OFF THEIR COURSE...

I HAVE LONG WONDERED ABOUT THAT FABLED PLACE 'WHERE'S IT, REEF? WHAT IS IT LIKE? YOU MUST TELL US ALL ABOUT 'EARTH.'

VARA AND NEPON, HER FATHER, TAKE REEF TO A TINY ISLAND.

WHILE I PREPARE A MEAL, FATHER, YOU SHOW REEF OUR CITY... AND TELL HIM HOW SARKJ STOLE YOUR THRONE..

LOOK, REEF! YONDER IS CORAAM, THE FLOATING CITY!

NEPON TELLS REEF HIS STORY

...THE PEACEFUL CITY WAS EASILY SEIZED BY RUTHLESS SARKJ AND HIS KILLERS..VARA AND I FLED FOR OUR LIVES.'

THEY RETURN TO THE ISLAND

VARA IS GONE!

SARKJ MUST HAVE FOUND OUR HIDING PLACE AND TAKEN HER!

I'LL GO LOOK FOR HER! THEY DON'T KNOW ME, YOU WOULD BE KILLED!

REEF TAKES A SMALL SKIFF AND PROPELS IT SWIFTLY TOWARD THE FABULOUS FLOATING CITY, ALL BUILT OF GLOWING CORAL.....

UNNOTICED, HE LANDS AT A DESERTED SPOT.

TWO OF SARKU'S MINIONS SPY REEF WANDERING IN SEARCH OF VARA.....

PSSST! AN ARMED STRANGER!

GET HIM!

OVERPOWERED, REEF IS DRAGGED INTO SARKU'S STRONGHOLD AND TAKEN BEFORE THE TYRANT....

SARKU APOLOGIZES IN ANGRY VOICE...

SO SORRY MY MEN INCONVENIENCED YOU! WE ARE HONORED BY YOUR VISIT!

ENJOY YOURSELF IN MY CITY! I'LL KEEP YOUR WEAPON.... ONLY MY GUARDS MAY CARRY ARMS!

I SEE!

REEF LEAVES THE CORAL CASTLE AND HURRIES TO HIS HIDDEN SKIFF.....

REEF FINDS A TUNNEL UNDER THE CASTLE...

I'VE GOT TO FIND HER!

SUDDENLY

HELP!

VARA!

NOW TO BREAK UP SARKU'S LITTLE PARTY!

DROP THAT KNIFE!

REEF!

REEF AND VARA LEAVE THE DUNGEON

OH..OH! MORE TROUBLE!

REEF LEAPS ON THE LURKING GUARD!

WAITING FOR SOMEONE?

GOOD-BYE NOW!

AS THE MAN TOPPLES INTO THE WATER, REEF TELLS VARA TO JUMP.

THEY PADDLE FURIOUSLY FROM CORAAM...

REEF! SARKU IS AFTER US!

SARKU SOON OVER-HAULS THEM..

THEY GRAPPLE AND REEF KNOCKS OUT SARKU'S HENCHMEN.....

BUT SARKU HITS HIM WITH THE HARPOON-GUN, KNOCKING HIM OVERBOARD.

A LURKING SHARK GOES FOR REEF!

REEF THROWS THE SHARK IN THE WAY OF SARKU'S DEADLY SHOT.

SEEING BLOOD CLOUD THE WATER, SARKU BELIEVES HE HAS KILLED REEF WHO SWIMS UNDER THE BOAT..

NOW I'LL ATTEND TO YOU, VARA!

REEF SPRINGS ABOARD! AND SMASHES SARKU WITH A PILE-DRIVER RIGHT!

THAT TAKES CARE OF HIM, VARA! NOW TO RESTORE THE THRONE TO YOUR FATHER!

THEY GO TO THE ISLAND.

LOOK WHAT I'VE GOT, NEPON!

HOW CAN I THANK YOU, REEF!

REEF RYAN SMASHES INTO NEW DANGERS IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

FIREWORKS Oh Boy!
THINK OF IT! An assortment of over 606 pieces of fireworks worth $6.15 for cash with order. We ... ZIPPERA ... Toledo 9

GALE ALLEN

and the GIRL SQUADRON

By Douglas McKee

GALE LEAVES HER HEADQUARTERS IN VANAM, THE CANALLED CAPITAL OF VENUS, TO SEEK HER FRIEND, JACK....

JACK SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK FROM THAT HUNTING TRIP A WEEK AGO..

SHE LANDS AT THE JUNGLE OUTPOST WHERE JACK LEFT HIS PLANE...

GALE PLUNGES INTO THE DANK JUNGLE..

AS SHE CROSSES A BOG..

A MAN BRANDED AS AN EX-CONVICT HALTS HER...

GO BACK! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR GIRLS!

GALE DRAWS HER RAY-GUN.

STAND ASIDE, YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO STOP ME!

GIMME THAT TOY, SISTER! IT MIGHT GO OFF!

IN THE STRUGGLE, HE TRIPS AND FALLS INTO THE BOG...

BOTH THE MAN AND GALES RAY GUN ARE SWALLOWED UP.

WHY DID HE TRY TO STOP ME? IS JACK IN DANGER?

UNAWARE OF LURKING PERIL, GALE PUSHES ON.

GALE SEES THE MONSTER

A SKOHR! IT HAS SEEN ME!

THE GIANT INSECT ATTACKS GALE....

SHE DODGES ITS DEADLY FLAILING STING-TAIL....

..AND FIGHTS VALIANTLY..

BUT THE SKOHR PINS HER DOWN AND LIFTS ITS DEATH STING!

Suddenly A BLAST FROM A RAY GUN SHATTERS THE MONSTER!

WHO ARE YOU, GIRL? WHAT DO YOU WANT IN THIS JUNGLE?

THE SURLY VENUSIANS TAKE GALE ALONG TWISTING TRAILS TO A STRANGE MOUNTAIN, AND TO A DARK CAVE ENTRANCE.

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

AS THEY ENTER THE STRANGE PLACE GALE SPIES A FAMILIAR FIGURE.

JACK!

UNSHAVEN AND IN RAGGED CLOTHES JACK LOOKS AT HER BLANKLY.....

WHY DO YOU PRETEND YOU KNOW ME? I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE! AND MY NAME IS TRON, NOT JACK!

BUT...

SHE MUST BE A SPY! LOCK HER UP IN THE TOWER!

A MERCURIAN ROCKET FREIGHTER GLIDES DOWN...

FROM HER CELL GALE WATCHES THE OUTLAWS GANG THE FREIGHTER'S CREW.

THE OUTLAWS HIJACK THE LOAD OF PURE POTASSIUM INSTEAD OF PAYING FOR IT.

UNNOTICED IN THE CONFUSION, JACK STEALS UP TO GALE'S CELL..

DON'T YOU SPEAK TO ME, MR. TRON!

GALE, I HAD TO DO IT! THESE MEN ARE PLOTTING TO RAVAGE VANAM! I'VE BEEN PRETENDING TO BE ONE OF THEM IN ORDER TO STOP THEM. YOU MUST HURRY BACK TO VANAM AND...

GALE ESCAPES!

AS GALE ROCKETS TO VANAM TO CARRY OUT JACK'S PLANS, AT THE CAMP STRANGE BOMBS AND CLOUD MINES ARE MADE READY... JACK AND THE OUTLAWS BOARD THE MINE-LAYER.

WE'LL SNEAK UP AN' PLANT THESE EGGS IN THE CLOUDS AN' THEN MAKE OUR OWN TERMS!

QUIETLY THEY SET THE DEADLY TIME BOMBS ADRIFT OVER VANAM...

JUST FOR FUN LET'S DROP A FEW BOMBS! LET 'EM RIP!

JACK RUSHES THE BLOODTHIRSTY CREW.

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

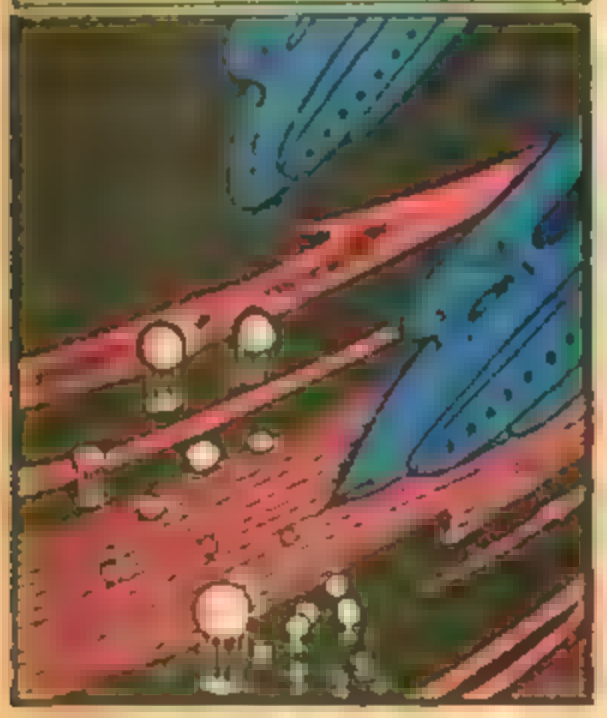
BATTLE RAGES IN THE EVIL SHIP..

BUT JACK IS TOO LATE POTASSIUM BOMBS STREAK FLAMING THROUGH THE DAMP ATMOSPHERE..

AS THEY HIT THE CANALS VIOLET FLAMES FLARE HIGH BEFORE THE POTASSIUM FINALLY EXPLODES.....

GALE'S PATROL TAKES OFF..

WITH HASTILY-RIGGED EQUIPMENT THE PATROL SWOOPS IN PAIRS ON THE FLOATING TIME-BOMBS..

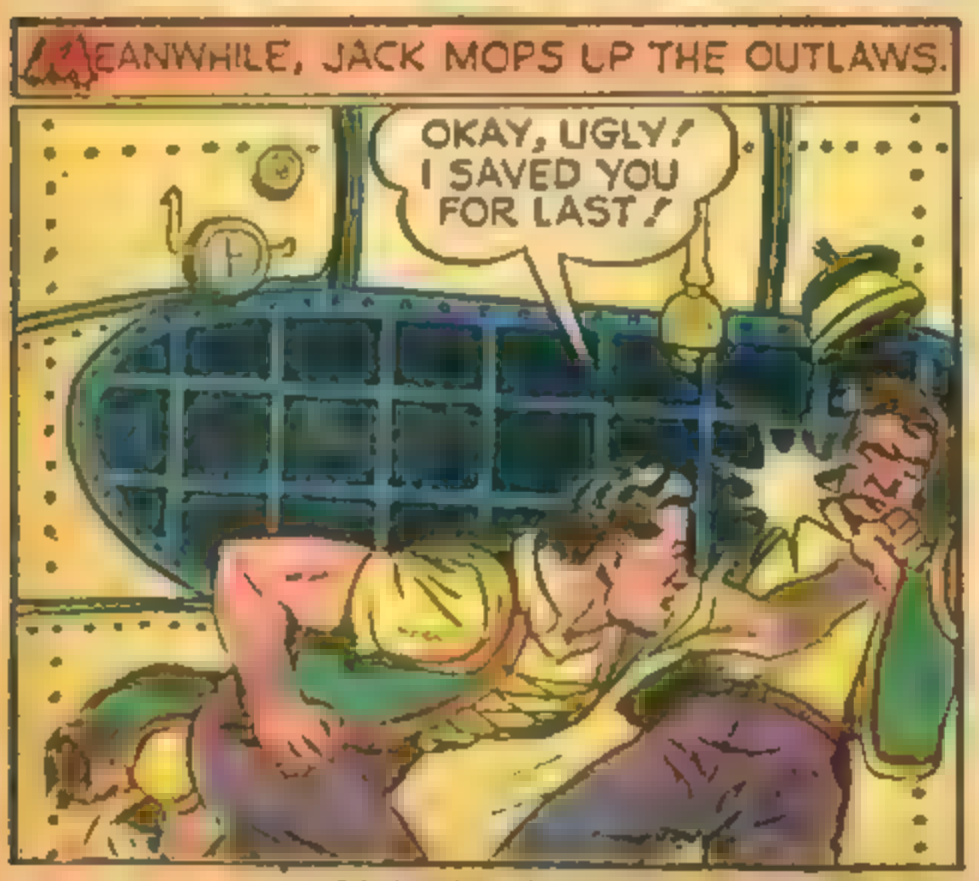


ONE STRAFES THE BOMB'S COVERING, EXPOSING THE POTASSIUM..

THE OTHER EXPLODES IT WITH POWERFUL JETS OF WATER.

THE BOMBS EXPLODE WITH TERRIFIC BLASTS IN MID-AIR, FAR ABOVE VANAM...

MEANWHILE, JACK MOPS UP THE OUTLAWS.



AS JACK LANDS THE SHIP, GALE RUNS UP.....

GALE ALLEN FACES NEW PERILS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS!

6

PLANET COMICS GOES ON SALE THE 15th

AURO LORD OF JUPITER

By Charlie Ackerman

AURO SWINGS THROUGH THE TREES TOWARD A CELEBRATION GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY THE LEADER OF THE SILT PEOPLE.

AH! HERE'S THE PLACE!

WHY SO GLUM, KING FARO? ISN'T THIS SUPPOSED TO BE A HOLIDAY?

AURO, MY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED BY THE DEVIL-CATS! THEY'RE A TERRIBLE MENACE TO OUR SAFETY!

HERE THEY COME!

BRAVELY AURO MEETS THE SAVAGE ATTACK . . . .

BUT THE DEVIL-CAT SINKS ITS FANGS INTO AURO'S ARM. . . .

OUCH!

AFTER A TERRIFIC STRUGGLE, AURO SUCCEEDS IN SINKING HIS KNIFE INTO THE BEAST'S HEART. .

THAT WAS A COURAGEOUS ACT AURO'BUT, LOOK! YOU'RE WOUNDED!

IT'S NOT SERIOUS!

WHILE AURO REGAINS HIS STRENGTH AT THE KING'S HOME.. FARO TELLS HIM OF THE GRIEF INFLICTED BY THE DEVIL-CATS

LAST SPRING MY DAUGHTER JOINED AN EXPEDITION TO ROAM THE LAND OF THE BEASTS! THE PARTY NEVER CAME BACK!

SO!..WHY DON'T I KNOW ABOUT THIS BEFORE! GIVE ME TWO OF YOUR BEST MEN, FARO, AND I'LL FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR DAUGHTER!

AND SO AURO LEADS HIS COMPANIONS TOWARD THE JUNGLE.

LOOK AURO'LOOK, FOOTPRINTS! HUMAN FOOTPRINTS! WE WON'T GO INTO THE HAUNTED JUNGLE!

VERY WELL! I CAN TRAVEL MUCH FASTER ALONE!

BUT IN MID-FLIGHT, AURO HEARS THE SOLDIERS SHOUTING AND TURNS BACK TO BEHOLD A TERRIBLE SIGHT...

DEVIL-CAT!

SENSING THE DANGER OF AN ENCOUNTER WITH THIS STRANGE TREE-MAN, THE BEAST LEAPS AWAY. BUT AURO, KNIFE IN HAND IS UPON HIM WITH A BOUND..

GOTCHA, OLD FELLA!

NIGHT COMES UPON THE JUNGLE AND BEFORE AURO GOES TO SLEEP HE BUILDS A RING OF FIRE TO GUARD AGAINST MARAUDERS...

BUT DURING THE NIGHT PAIRS OF GREEN EYES GLOW IN THE DARK AS THEY STUDY THE INTRUDER.

NEXT MORNING.

CAT MEN!

YOU BOYS LOOKING FOR ME?

OOH!

POW

OW!

H-M! NICE SETTING UP EXERCISES!

POW!

ROCK GOT 'IM!

OOH!

AURO'S CAPTORS ARE A BAND OF MEN WHO ARE CALLED KLINTS. THEY TAKE THE LORD OF JUPITER TO THEIR TEMPLE

NOW YOU WILL PAY FOR COMING INTO OUR COUNTRY!

HE IS LED INTO A ROOM LINED WITH BLOCKS OF ICE..

HOLY SMOKE! THAT MUST BE FARO'S DAUGHTER FROZEN IN THE ICE!

HE IS FORCED INTO ONE OF THE MOLDS AND THE FREEZING MACHINE IS TURNED ON

HEE! HEE! SOON YOU, TOO, SHALL BE ALL ICE!

HEE! LOOK! ICE IS BEGINNING TO FORM ON HIS FEET!

AURO STRAINS MIGHTILY AT HIS BONDS.

AND BREAKS LOOSE.

HE'S SMASHED THE ICE!

YOU BOYS MUST BE TIRED! HERE'S A SLEEPING PILL!

NOW TO FREE THE PRINCESS!

CRACK

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I FEEL WEAK!

BUT MORE CAT-MEN INVADE THE ROOM.

FREEZE YOUR JAW ON THIS!

BOP!

THIS OUGHT TO KEEP YOU DOWN!

DECIDING THAT THE TWO CAPTIVES ARE TOO MUCH TO KEEP, THE KLINTS PREPARE TO SACRIFICE THEM TO THE DEVIL-CATS. THEY ARE LED TO THE ALTAR OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE GATES.

QUICK! CLOSE THE DRAWBRIDGE BEFORE THE CATS ATTACK US!

YOU'RE GOING TO BE KILLED BECAUSE OF ME!

CLOSER AND CLOSER COME THE DEVIL-CATS.

ROPES CAN'T HOLD ME!

WITH THE GIRL CLINGING TO HIS BACK, AURO LEAPS TOWARD THE TREES.

HOLD TIGHT! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

WAIT HERE! I'M GOING TO OPEN THE DRAWBRIDGE IF I DON'T GIVE THE CATS SOMETHING TO CHEW ON, THEY'LL CLIMB THE TREES AFTER US!

HERE THEY COME! WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELVES, BOYS!

THE CATS! THEY'RE COMING!

THE KLINTS RUN IN PANIC BEFORE THE STAMPEDE OF THE CATS.

SAFE AT LAST, AURO AND THE GIRL HEAD FOR HOME.

THERE'LL BE A NEW ADVENTURE OF

AURO
Lord of Jupiter

IN THE NEXT ISSUE of PLANET COMICS

PLANET COMICS GOES ON SALE THE 15th

THE SARGASSO SEA OF SPACE

By BJORN TAGENS

The little space freighter *Linda* droned toward a slowly growing satellite which was its next port of call. The lane was clear, the old rocket motors wheezed cheerfully, yet Skipper Bland Mason, at the controls, fought a strange feeling of fear.

He tried to analyze his apprehension. It could have nothing to do with his cargo, a mixed load for half a dozen satellites, even though the generous share of profits that the owners had assigned to him made this trip especially important. And there was only one other problem—the unexplained disappearance of space ships.

Liners and freighters, exploring ships and pleasure craft had vanished. Mason checked them off in his mind. Fifteen in the last few months had simply gone without any farewell, without any revealing signals. There was the crack liner *Andrea*, which had been signalling a routine report; the signals broke off in the middle of a sentence, and the *Andrea* was added to the Interplanetary Federation's long list headed SHIPS UNREPORTED.

No one even knew just where these ships had been. But—and suddenly Mason knew why this fear had struck him—it was somewhere around here that the *Andrea* had left the list of ships in commission.

Without warning, the freighter lurched.

And while Mason strove to steady himself in his bucket seat, a voice in which irritation and surprise were mingled sounded through the speaking tube. It was Tug Daniels, Mason's engineer.

"What are you trying to do to the old packet, Bland?"

Mason's eyes narrowed worriedly. It wasn't motor trouble, then, that had caused the lurch. And now the freighter was veering from its course, defying Mason's hold on the wheel. Something had a grip on the old *Linda*. Fear closed in on him.

He called to Tug. "Something's got her, Tug! She won't answer the wheel! Seems to be caught in a current."

A muffled exclamation sounded through the phone, and in a moment Tug Daniels stuck his carrot-thatched head into the control room. "What the devil?" he cried. "Anything in sight?"

"What could be?" retorted Mason, swinging his lean frame to face his engineer. "We're days away from any planet, star, asteroid or anything else."

Tug shook his head perplexedly. "The motors are slowed up some. Act as if the fuel had been diluted all of a sudden. That was good fuel. Best I could load."

"Yep," Mason grunted, "but maybe good fuel can go bad. I wonder if that could be the answer?"

Tug's eyes flashed angrily. "You mean some swab doped it before we left Earth?"

"Well," said Mason simply, "a trick like that might explain what happened to those fifteen missing ships."

"Say!" breathed Tug. "Then—they were crippled? Drifted—and were jumped by pirates?"

The glow left Mason's eyes. "That's what I was thinking," he admitted, "but it won't do. That theory doesn't explain why the ships never sent out distress calls."

"You're right," conceded Tug. Suddenly, he snapped his fingers. "How's our set?"

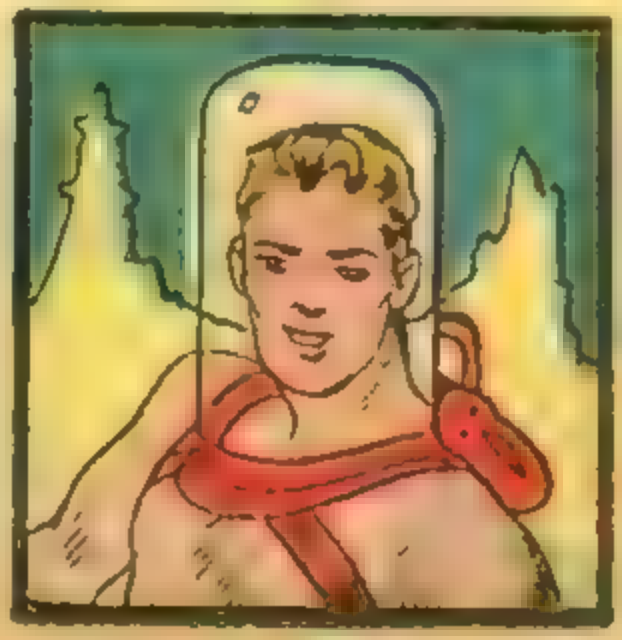
Mason's fingers flew to the sender. He tapped rapidly, then stopped. The two exchanged bleak glances.

"No go," sighed Mason. "She's dead."

The ship was slowing perceptibly. "Fuel knocked out, sender ditto," gloomed Tug. "Maybe we're going where those other fifteen ships went."

"Wherever that is," said Mason grimly.

Tug turned to go. "I'll nurse those rockets along all I can. And while I'm at it I'll grab me a pistol." The door slid shut.



Mason, reaching for a pistol from its sheath on the control panel, stared ahead. Except for a slight haze dead ahead, he could see nothing. It seemed that the old *Linda* was drawn to that haze as by a magnet.

The throb of the motors died away. Tug appeared. "They've quit," he announced. "See anything?"

Mason pointed through the thick window. "Just that mist."

"What is it, fog?"

"No fog here. It's a nebular mist. Fine particles of metal, and a swirl of—" He stopped.

"Of what?"

"Gas," said Mason. "More than one gas, seeping through the exhaust, could take the kick out of a bunker of fuel. And wreck the signal knob, too."

Tug balked. "But we weren't anywhere near that soup."

"I know. But the gas itself might be spewed over a big area."

The *Linda* swept on, impelled by momentum, as the two fell silent. The mist loomed bulky. Then the old freighter cut into it, drifting. A twilight gloom invaded the cabin.

"But why?" Tug exclaimed. "What's behind the whole thing?"

"That," said Mason grimly, "is what we'll try to find out."

The *Linda* drifted on, and the two at the control window saw black hulks ahead. The old freighter seemed drawn to them.

"Ships!" gasped Tug. "A dozen of 'em!"

"Yep," agreed Mason with a significant twist of an eyebrow. "About a dozen, Tug, we're about to read the riddle of space."

"You said it," agreed Tug bitterly. "Read it and weep. It's a cinch we'll never get out of here to tell about it."

The *Linda* bumped the side of a ship that appeared to be dark and deserted. But as she clung as if for companionship to the other hull, a light appeared revealing a great liner. At the same instant there was a clatter at the freighter's air lock.

The two hurried to the lock, flung it open. They were knocked backward by the rush of a half-dozen armed men. In an instant they were disarmed.

"Hey, what is this?" cried Tug.

"You'll know quick enough," grin-

ned a burly ruffian. "Come on, boys, the boss likes things done fast." Without ceremony the hard-looking crew rushed Mason and Tug into the dark hold of the liner, up a companionway, and into a cabin.

Mason and Tug took one look at the darkly smiling figure seated at a desk and exclaimed in unison, "Torgland"'

The dark man sneered. "Yes, Torgland. Did you think I would sulk humbly in exile? The Federation cheated me of a throne, the throne of the richest starlet in the universe. But I shall have a greater empire!"

"He's cracked," Tug muttered to Mason.

Torgland the exile had heard. "You think I'm insane? Then you shall have the pleasure of seeing how I am building a new world. Then, of course, you must die. The others do not matter, but I know of you, Mason—you're dangerous, and I should be incautious if I were to let you live."

Mason nodded calmly, and asked a question that surprised the somber hot-eyed exile. "What others?"

"Eh? Oh, the others. Why, all the people of the other ships. Some, of course, are dead—we had to kill a great many. You'll see some who were amenable, and are doing good work for me. Take them away, guards." He waved a hand indifferently.

The burly attendants hustled the pair from the cabin, down the length of the ship, and into a dimly lighted saloon aft, where a hundred men and women were huddled in disconsolate groups. They stared at the newcomers, but said no word. Only one man came forward to greet them as the guards left.

"They sucked you in too?" asked the mild-eyed small man with the thick-lensed glasses.

"Right," admitted Mason shortly. "How do they do it?"

"Projectors," said the small man tersely. "This mass was just floating in space. Torgland attached his own small ship to it and moved it about by projectors that use the heat of the sun. And that same force acts as a magnet. He has trapped a number of ships in this spacial Sargasso Sea."

"Sargasso Sea!" murmured Mason. "But what is he leading up to?"

"I don't know," said the small man despairingly. "I think he plans to build up this floating mass by attaching to it everything that comes his way — meteors, small spheres, anything."

Mason whistled. "Very smart! Then he'll have a world of his own." He smashed his palm. "We've got to stop him! He'd be the biggest pirate in space!"

"Count me in," said the small man simply. Tug's glance spoke volumes. "What's our move?" he asked.

Mason thought a moment. "Where are the other ships?"

"They are in a row," said the small man. "Connected by the air locks. But they're all deserted except this one."

"Fuel in 'em?"

The small man nodded. "Fuel in all of them. We've been working, taking a little out of each, to fuel this ship which carried all of Torgland's apparatus."

"Then," said Mason, his eyes gleaming, "we'll blow them up."

Tug's jaw dropped. "And ourselves too?"

"Not quite, Tug. We'll leave one ship to take the shock. Blow all the others up. And when the guards scatter to inspect the damage, we'll seize the ship. How many men in Torgland's army, or navy, or whatever you call it?"

The small man hesitated. "I'd say a hundred."

Mason was silent. Tug scowled, and said finally, "Ah, let's try it anyway."

When the small man nodded, Mason grinned. He gave terse orders to the small man to round up the active men among the prisoners, and wait for the signal. Then he and Tug crept through the hull.

At the airlock they found two guards lounging. One spring did the work. Both guards slumped under their furious blows. Dumping the pair out of sight and taking their pistols, Mason and Tug slipped through the lock to the next hull. It was empty, as were all ten others. Swiftly they fixed and set fuses and lit them. Then they raced back to the liner, and crouched behind a stack of bales near Torgland's cabin.

Boom! The farthest ship blew up. Guards stirred at the faint explosion and the shudder communicated to the great hull. A pair of them raced to the airlock. Soon another pair, evidently sent by Torgland, joined them and the four passed out of the ship in search of the trouble.

A moment passed. Then—boom! The second ship exploded. And the liner came to life. Guards sprang up everywhere. Mason and Tug crouched lower, but a sharp-eyed gunman sighted Tug's bulk.

His yell brought hard-eyed men running. And Mason, dodging a blast from a pistol, saw Torgland's door open and caught a brief glimpse of a rage-distorted face.

He shot down two charging guards. Then a thrown object felled him, and he saw Tug go down under a pair of guards. His heart sank as fingers clutched at his throat and a red mist seemed before his eyes.

But suddenly the pressure relaxed. He seemed to hear echoes of an explosion. His assailant, startled, had relaxed his grip. Mason heaved, and was free. He slashed at the guard, wrenched the pistol from his hand, and began firing steadily. Men dropped, but more came on.

Then another great crash rocked the ship. And at the same instant the small man and a score of other prisoners charged the guards from the rear. Confused, the guards retreated toward the open airlock, thrusting a screaming Torgland before them. The press thrust them through the lock.

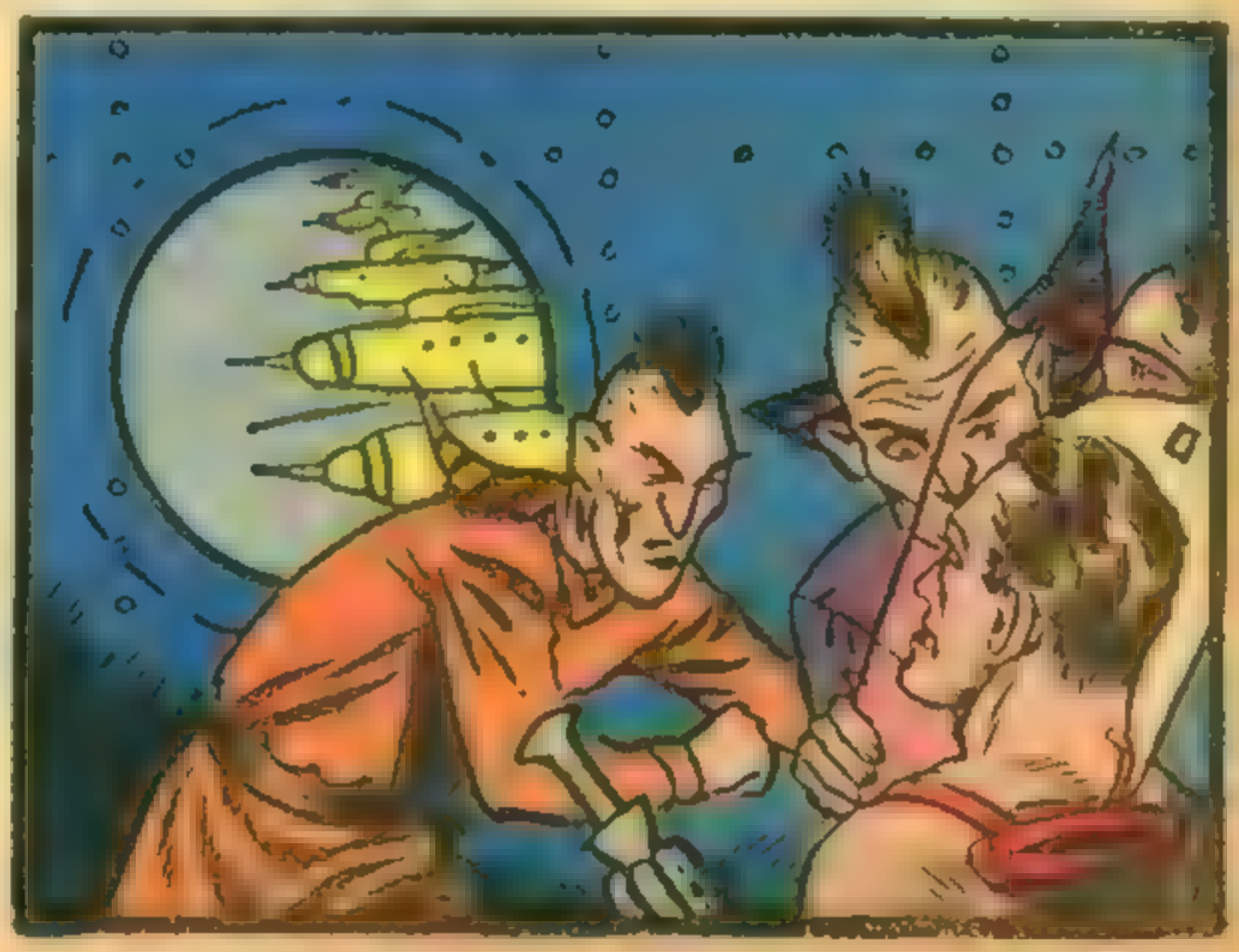
Mason saw his chance. He dashed to the lock and slammed it shut. Then he whirled the great make-fast wheel and felt the ship rise as it was freed of the weight of other hulls.

Through a port, Mason, Tug and the small man stared out into the mist. They saw great glares, heard explosions faintly. After one explosion the hull alongside cracked open and fell away.

"And that's the end of Torgland," muttered Tug.

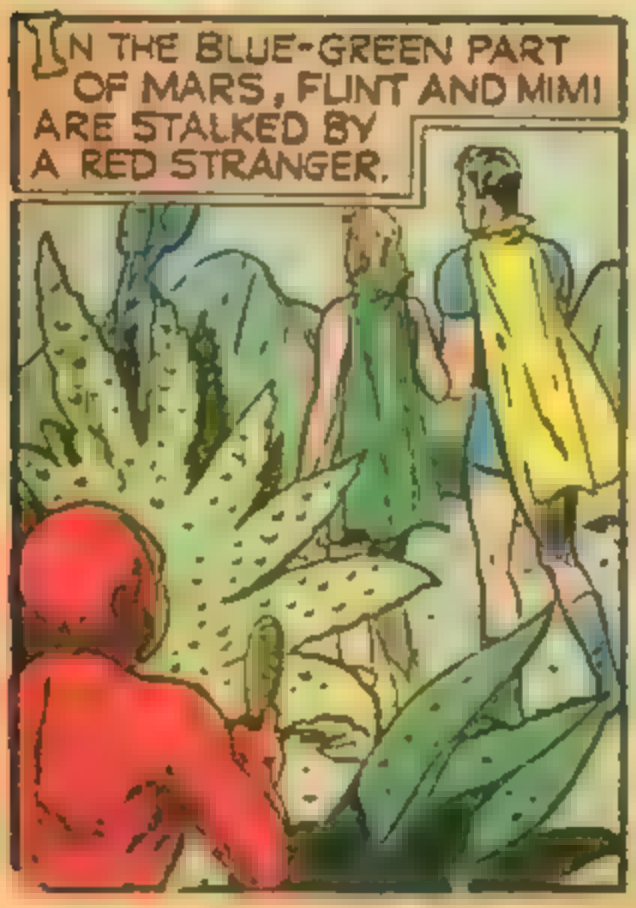
"Well, don't stand there," grunted Mason. "We've got to wreck that apparatus. And after that, we've got a cargo to deliver in the *Linda*."

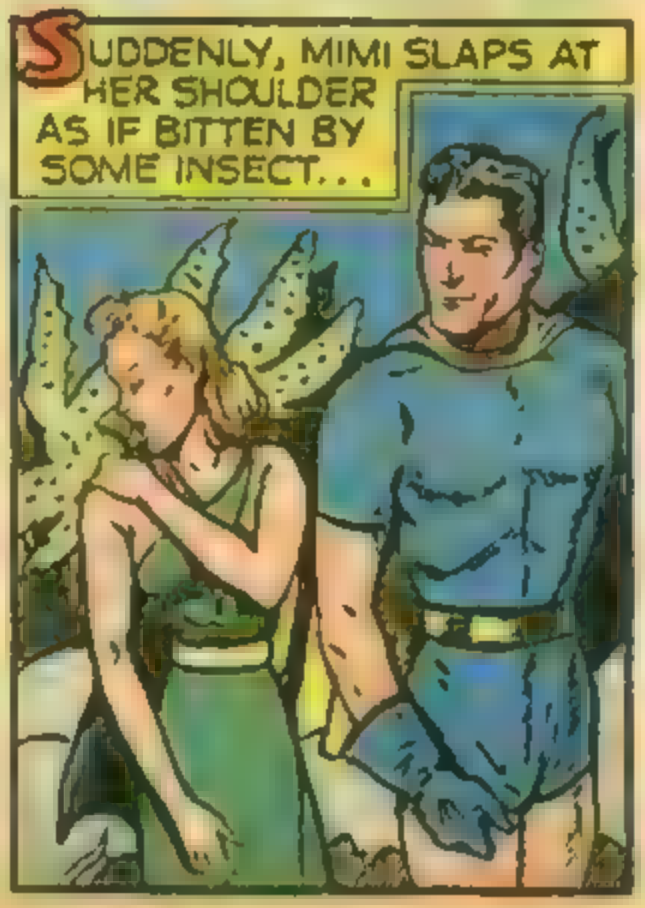
THE END

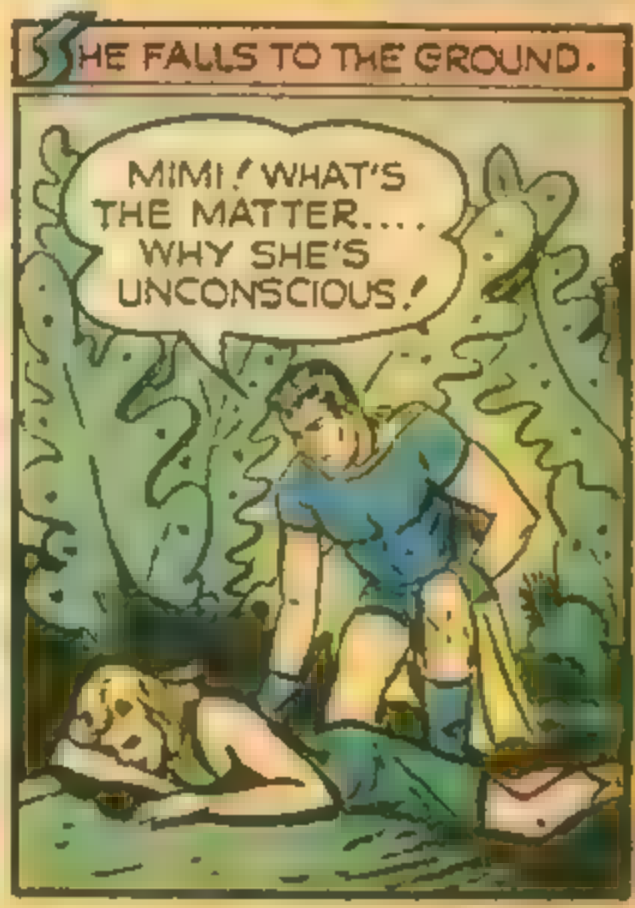


FLINT BAKER

By Al Schmidt







MAYBE THE DOCTOR CAN HELP.. SHE'S STILL IN A COMA!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, FLINT, AND ALL THE SPECIALISTS ARE CONVENING ON JUPITER!

FLINT SPEEDS WITH MIMI TO JUPITER...

FLINT LANDS HIS ROCKET SHIP NEAR THE CONVENTION HALL.

MIMI IS EXAMINED BY THE ASSEMBLED EMINENT DOCTORS...

SHE IS A VICTIM OF SOME STRANGE POISON FOR WHICH WE HAVE NO ANTIDOTE..

FLINT DECIDES TO RETURN TO MARS.

I'LL HAVE TO FIND THE RAT WHO DID THIS!

OUTSIDE, FLINT SEES MASKED MEN.....

HEY! THOSE GUYS ARE SETTING BOMBS!

FLINT PUTS MIMI DOWN AND WHIRLS INTO ACTION..

TRYING TO DESTROY THE BEST MEDICAL MEN OF THE UNIVERSE, EH?

[illegible] ARE TOUCH ENOUGH [illegible] UNIVERSE WITHOUT YOU ANARCHISTS!

4 SUPERPOLICE COVE UP TO INTERCEPT THE ANARCHISTS FLEE TO THEIR SHIP.

3 FLINT GOES BACK FOR MIMI AND THEN RUNS TO HIS OWN.

[illegible] IT ZOOMS IN PURSUIT!

SUDDENLY TWO STOWAWAY ANARCHISTS RUSH FLINT!

LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, HUH?

WELL, YOU CAME TO THE RIGHT GUY!

THEN FLINT SEES THE ANARCHIST SHIP BEARING DOWN ON HIM...

NOW THEY'RE GETTING TOUGH!

HE LOOPS AND BLASTS IT INTO BITS!

WHEN FLINT LANDS ON MARS, AN EXCITED NATIVE RUNS UP TO HIM...

FLINT!

WHAT'S WRONG?

THE PEOPLE OF TELRU HAVE VANISHED...ALL OF THEM!

MAYBE THIS IS CONNECTED WITH MIMI'S COMA.. I'LL TAKE A LOOK!

FLINT ROCKETS TO TELRU, A TOWN DEEP IN THE RED MOUNTAINS OF MARS.

HE SEARCHES THROUGH THE TOWN...

THE PLACE IS DESERTED, AND NO BLOODSHED, NO SIGN OF VIOLENCE...NOTHING!

WAIT A MINUTE! HERE'S A POISONED DART.. SHAPED LIKE A WASP!

MIMI MAY HAVE BEEN POISONED BY ONE OF THESE!

FLINT RUNS BACK TO HIS SHIP....

THE TOWN'S PEOPLE MUST HAVE BEEN PUT IN A COMA AND THEN KIDNAPED!

MIMI'S GONE!

FOOTPRINTS!

THEY MUST BE NEAR! MAYBE I CAN CATCH UP!

FLINT SPRINTS INTO THE MOUNTAINS...

HE COMES TO A DEEP RAVINE..

THERE'S MIMI! THAT BRUTE CARRYING HER MUST BE NINE FEET TALL!

MIMI AND HER KIDNAPER DISAPPEAR INTO THE CLIFF.

FLINT CROSSES OVER....

SOLID ROCK! NO, IT'S CAMOUFLAGE!

HE PUSHES IN...

TWO RED GIANTS GUARD THE ENTRANCE.

GANG-WAY!

AS THEY RUSH AT HIM, FLINT SLUGS ONE.....

FLINT SLAMS HIM AGAINST THE OTHER!

I WANT YOU TWO TO GET TOGETHER!

FLINT DASHES DOWN A DARK TUNNEL...

SUDDENLY HE FALLS INTO AN OPEN SHAFT!

HE LANDS IN A HIGH, GLOOMY CAVERN...AT THE FAR END ARE MIMI AND THE RED MONSTER!

MIMI!

FLINT!

FLINT RACES DOWN THE CAVE.

STOP, FOOL!

HE SEES THE QUEER RAY CONTROL GUNS OF A SCORE OF RED MEN AIMED AT HIM

FIRE!

A TORRENT OF DEADLY LITTLE MISSILES STREAKS TOWARD FLINT!

FLINT WHIPS OUT HIS ATOMIC CONVERTER, FIRING AS HE DRAWS.

IMMEDIATELY, THE RAYS TURN INTO HARMLESS JETS OF WATER, AND THE MARKSMEN INTO FOUNTAIN STATUES!

I HATE TO WASTE THE CONVERTER ON YOU MUGS!

THEN HE TURNS ON THEIR LEADER....

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE CHANGED TO, BUD?

BUT THE GIANT SWINGS MIMI UP IN FRONT OF HIM!

NOW SHOOT, IF YOU DARE!

ALL RIGHT, IT'S YOUR ROUND! I'LL COMPROMISE!

THEY AGREE TO A TRUCE,. BUT AS FLINT AND MIMI WALK OUT INTO THE OPEN THE MONSTER FOLLOWS...

HE JUMPS FLINT FROM BEHIND!

OVER THE CLIFF, FOOL!

BUT FLINT GRABS THE FIEND, AND WITH A MIGHTY HEAVE, SENDS HIM HURTLING INTO THE CHASM!

DEATH WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIM!

OH, FLINT, HE ALMOST KILLED YOU!

FLINT AND MIMI FIND NEW THRILLS ON MARS IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

Buzz Crandall

OF THE SPACE PATROL

by William Hyer

THE MYSTERIOUS D SAPPEAR-ANCE OF THE MOON SCEPTER CAUSES THE EARTH PEOPLE ON PLANETOID "UED" TO LOSE POWER OVER THE FIERCE KURMEN, WHO REVOLT AND KILL MOST OF THE EARTHMEN.

A SAVAGE KURMAN SPRINGS AT MARNA!

BUZZ RUSHES TOWARD THEM!

MARNA! LOOK OUT!

MARNA AND THE WOMEN SEEK SHELTER IN THE FORESTS.... BUZZ SEES DANGER LURK...

DROPPING MARNA, THE KURMAN SWINGS, BUT BUZZ DUCKS...

IS THIS WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO DO?

THEY LEAVE MARNA'S ATTACKER UNCONSCIOUS...

MORE OF THE SAVAGE BRUTES RUSH UP.....

BUZZ AND MARNA ARE OVERPOWERED!

THEY ARE DRAGGED INTO THE ANCIENT MOON TEMPLE!

IRONS ARE MADE RED HOT!

TELL US HIDING PLACE OF WOMEN OR...

I DON'T SCARE THAT EASILY, MUTT FACE!

BUZZ HOLDS OUT AGAINST THE TORTURE SO THEY START ON MARNA.....

STOP! LEAVE HER ALONE AND I'LL TALK!

HE TELLS THEM WHERE THE OTHER WOMEN ARE HIDING....

THEY ARE IN THE VALLEY OF THE PURPLE ROCKS!

WITH YELPS OF TRIUMPH, THE FIENDISH KURMEN RUN OUT!

BUZZ BURNS THROUGH HIS BONDS WITH THE IRON..

QUICKLY HE UNTIES MARNA...

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

THEY HURRY THROUGH THE FOREST, TRYING TO BEAT THE KURMEN TO THE HIDE-OUT...

BUT THEY ARE TOO LATE!

THEY ARE SEEN!

AS THEY RUN DOWN A DARK PASSAGE THEY FALL INTO A HIDDEN SHAFT...

THEIR PURSUERS STOP SHORT!

HA! THEY WILL PERISH!

AS THEY LAND, FAR DOWN, A HUGE SHADOW APPEARS!

IT IS CAST BY A SMALL RED-HAIRED BOY!

KID!

RUSTY, THE BOY, TAKES THEM TO A RAFT ON AN UNDERGROUND RIVER. HE TELLS THEM ABOUT HIS FORMER CAPTOR, AN EVIL OLD MAN.

THE OLD MAN IS THE ONE WHO STOLE THE MOON SCEPTER AND WITH IT POWER OVER THE KURMEN.

TAKE THE EARTHMEN WHO STILL LIVE TO MY MINES!

WE OBEY, MIGHTY MOON MASTER!

HE CHAINED THE MEN AND FORCED THEM TO WORK AS SLAVES. . . . . !

WITH THE AID OF THE SCEPTER I WILL GET ALL THE WEALTH OF LED. . . OF THE UNIVERSE!

WHAT ARE THESE MINES?

FOLLOW ME!

RUSTY GUIDES THE RAFT THROUGH STRANGE CAVES. THEN THEY LAND AND FOLLOW A LONG TUNNEL.....

THEY COME TO THE MINES...

GET THE BOY!

SUDDENLY A GIGANTIC WATCH DOG CHARGES!

BUZZ IS THROWN DOWN BY THE IMPACT!

AT THE OLD MAN'S COMMAND ANOTHER DOG JUMPS RUSTY!

IN A FIERCE STRUGGLE BUZZ AND RUSTY KILL THE SAVAGE DOGS.....

MARNA! WHERE ARE YOU?

THEN BUZZ SEES THE OLD MADMAN GRAB MARNA!

AS HE SPRINGS ON THE MANIAC, THE MOON SCEPTER FALLS TO THE GROUND!

THE LOSS OF THE SCEPTER DRIVES THE EVIL OLD MAN COMPLETELY MAD AND HE LEAPS TO HIS DEATH.

LEADING MARNA AND RUSTY, BUZZ RUNS TO THE MINES....

THEY SET FREE THE ENSLAVED EARTHMEN AND START BACK FOR THE SURFACE ..

GRABBING UP CRUDE CLUBS, THEY HEAD FOR THE MOON TEMPLE.

THE KJRMEN ARE ABOUT TO SACRIFICE A GIRL ON THE POINTED MOON DIAL!

STOP!

A SHAFT OF MOONLIGHT HITS THE MOON SCEPTER AND THE KJRMEN FALL IN TERROR!

OH, BUZZ! ONCE MORE PEACE WILL REIGN ONCE UED!

BUZZ CRANDALL RETURNS IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

PLANET COMICS GOES ON SALE THE 15th

Captain Nelson Cole

By Aurelius

TO ENFORCE PEACE, EARTH SCIENTISTS HAVE DEVELOPED A NEW WEAPON...AN ATOMIC FREQUENCY VIBRATOR WHICH SHATTERS ANY SOLID BY SOUNDING ITS MOLECULAR KEY VIBRATION.....

CAPTAIN NELSON COLE IS TAKING SOME OF THESE WEAPONS TO JUPITER....

JOVON, COLE'S DESTINATION, IS A PEACEFUL CITY MENACED BY CLUD AND HIS MIST-MEN..

SOON WE WILL CONQUER YONDER JOVON!

COLE'S SHIP PENETRATES THE DENSE LAYER OF CLOUDS COVERING JUPITER....

SUDDENLY COLE SEES A HORRIBLE SCENE IN THE JUNGLE BELOW

THAT GIRL WILL BE KILLED!

COLE LANDS AS SNARLING VONSTERS GAIN ON THE GIRL!

HE RUNS TO THE RESCUE!

NO! GO BACK! DON'T TRY TO SAVE ME!

COLE CHARGES WITH HIS HIGH-VOLTAGE SABER!

AS COLE SLASHES, THE BEAST TELE-SCOPES ITS NECK

WHAT THE..?

FINALLY HE LOPS OFF A FEW HEADS AND THE REST FLEE!

HE TAKES THE GIRL ON BOARD HIS SHIP.....

WHY DID YOU TELL ME NOT TO SAVE YOU?

THAT'S WHY! THE VIBRATORS HAVE BEEN STOLEN!

BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW...

CLUD PLANNED IT ALL! I AM JUPRA, PRINCESS OF JOVON .. HE KIDNAPED ME!

WHEN YOU CAME IN SIGHT HE SET THOSE BEASTS AFTER ME TO MAKE YOU LAND AND LEAVE THE SHIP! I TRIED TO STOP YOU.

THEY TRAIL THE BANDITS THROUGH THE JUNGLE.....

SUDDENLY A HUGE CANN BAL PLANT SEIZES JUPRA!

HELP!

COLE WHIPS OUT THE BLASTING SWORD!

HE CLEAVES THE FIEND SH PLANT IN TWO AND JUPRA FALLS TO SAFETY!

THEY PUSH ON AND COME IN SIGHT OF CLUD'S CAMP..

GO TO THE OTHER SIDE OF CAMP WITH THESE GRENADES!

JUPRA FOLLOWS COLE'S PLAN... MOST OF THE MIST-MEN RUN TO THE EXPLOSION WHILE COLE DASHES FOR THE VIBRATORS!

BEFORE COLE CAN REACH THE WEAPONS, MIST-MEN SURROUND HIM....HE LAYS THEM OUT WITH CRUSHING BLOWS.....

BUT HE AND JUPRA ARE CAPTURED AND TAKEN BEFORE CLUD.....

DID YOU THINK YOU COULD TRICK ME, THE GREAT CLUD? YOU WILL BOTH DIE!

I'LL LEAVE YOU TO THE JUNGLE KILLERS WHILE I GO CONQUER JOVON!

A DEADLY KROKIL!

COLE GRABS THE SAW-TOOTHED BEAST... THE SNAPPING JAWS SEVER THE BONDS!

COLE FREES JUPRA AND THEY RUN TO HIS SHIP!

THANK HEAVEN NO ONE CAN OPERATE THAT CRATE BUT ME!

THEY SPEED TO JOVON!

JOVON, COLE TELLS KING CLUD OF THE LOSS OF THE VIBRATORS.....

NOW CLUD WILL ATTACK!

BUT YOU SAVED MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE, CAPTAIN! DON'T APOLOGIZE!

COLE MAKES A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO RIG UP A MAKESHIFT VIBRATOR!

THE NEXT DAY THE MEN-MEN ARRIVE BEFORE JOVON. CLUD HAS MOUNTED THE VIBRATORS ON CRUDE TANKS..

WE'LL GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO SURRENDER FIRST!

COLE RUSHES TO GET HIS VIBRATOR...

A SPY!

HE GETS TO THE SABOTEUR IN THE NICK OF TIME!

NO, YOU DON'T!

ANOTHER TERRIFIC BLOW SNAPS THE SPY'S NECK!

MEANWHILE...

YOU WIN, CLUD! SPARE JOVON.. I'LL ABDICATE!

COLE SETS HIS MACHINE TO THE VIBRATION KEY OF THE EARTH-MADE WEAPONS.

INSTANTLY THE VIBRATORS EXPLODE, KILLING MOST OF THE MIST-MEN!

[illegible] FOR CLUD!

WANT TO BE KING, EH?

CONSIDER YOURSELF CROWNED!

CLUD, YOU ARE CONDEMNED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT AT HARD LABOR!

THE REST OF THE MIST-MEN ARE LED AWAY TO PRISON..

IN GRATITUDE, KING [illegible] MAKES COLE A BARON OF JOVON!

YOU WILL STAY, WON'T YOU?

IF YOU SAY SO, JUPRA!

CAPTAIN NELSON COLE AND JUPRA FIND MORE SMASHING THRILLS IN THE NEXT PLANET COMICS!

E

The Star PIRATE

By Rey Isip

A FIERCE AERIAL BATTLE FOLLOWS THE "I" MEN'S SABOTAGE SCHEME. . . THWARTED BY THE STAR PIRATE, THEY THROW THE FULL FORCE OF THEIR SPACE FLEET AGAINST THE 'Z' SHIPS. . .

. . . OUT IN A DISTANT ASTEROID BELT, THE STAR PIRATE SEES THROUGH HIS LONG RANGE TELESCOPE . .

"I" MEN! THEY ARE ATTACKING THOSE "Z" SHIPS!

TRODELYTE! GET MY SHIP READY FOR ACTION! WE'RE LEAVING AT ONCE!

THE STAR PIRATE'S BLACK SHIP, THE "REVENGE" ROCKETS IN SWIFT PURSUIT.

TRODELYTE MANS THE CONTROLS.

ALL EXCEPT THE "Z" GUIDE SHIP HAVE SURRENDERED, SHALL WE DIVE INTO THE FIGHT?

THE REVENGE LURCHES AS THE STAR PIRATE SHOUTS A COMMAND

YES! MAKE A WIDE SWING AND DIVE AHEAD OF THEM!

THEY SHOOT STRAIGHT FOR THE "IT" MEN'S CRAFT WITH RAY SWITCHES WIDE OPEN

AH, WE'VE CRIPPLED THEM!

THE "IT" MEN SAIL AWAY IN THEIR WOBBLING SHIPS.

MEANWHILE, THE STAR PIRATE SIGNALS THE "Z" GUIDE SHIP TO FOLLOW.

AND HE HEADS BACK TO HIS SECRET BASE IN SATURN'S RING.

WHERE'S HE TAKING US?

I WONDER WHO IS ABOARD THIS "Z" BOAT, TRODELYTE!

WHEN THEY DISEMBARK.

YOUR FATHER HAS A BAD RAY BURN.. YOU HANDLED THE CONTROLS?

YES..MY FATHER, LYNTURNE, OWNS THESE SPACE SHIPS!

ON THE NIGHT LYNTURNE PLANS TO LEAVE, THE AUDIOGRAPH PICKS UP THE HUM OF AN ENEMY SHIP.

QUIET! WE MUSTN'T BETRAY OUR LOCATION TO THE "IT" MEN!

SUDDENLY..

WHAT'S THAT SOUND? A GUN? IT'S FIRING AT INTERVALS LIKE CODE!

OUTSIDE, IN A HANGAR, THEY DISCOVER THE TROUBLE...

YOU'RE SIGNALLING THE 'IT' MEN! DROP THAT GUN!

GET BACK, YOU TWO!

STAR PIRATE LUNGES AT THE TRAITOROUS

WE'LL MAROON YOU ON A COMET FOR THIS, STINO!

ANGRILY, STINO HOLDS HIS GUN ON THEM BUT..

NOT SO FAST WITH THE RAY GUN BUT YOU'D BETTER BE FAST WITH YOUR TONGUE!

YES.. I DID SIGNAL TO AN 'IT' SHIP! TONIGHT, THE 'IT' MEN PLAN TO DUMP THE 'Z' SHIPS' MUNITIONS CARGOES RIGHT ON THE 'Z' HANGARS.. THEY'LL WRECK 'EM THAT WAY!

IN A FLASH, THE STAR PIRATE RACES TO HIS SHIP.

I'LL GO AFTER THEM MYSELF!

THE "REVENGE" NOSES UP AFTER THE 'IT' PLANE.

I CAN'T LET THEM DO THEIR DIRTY WORK!

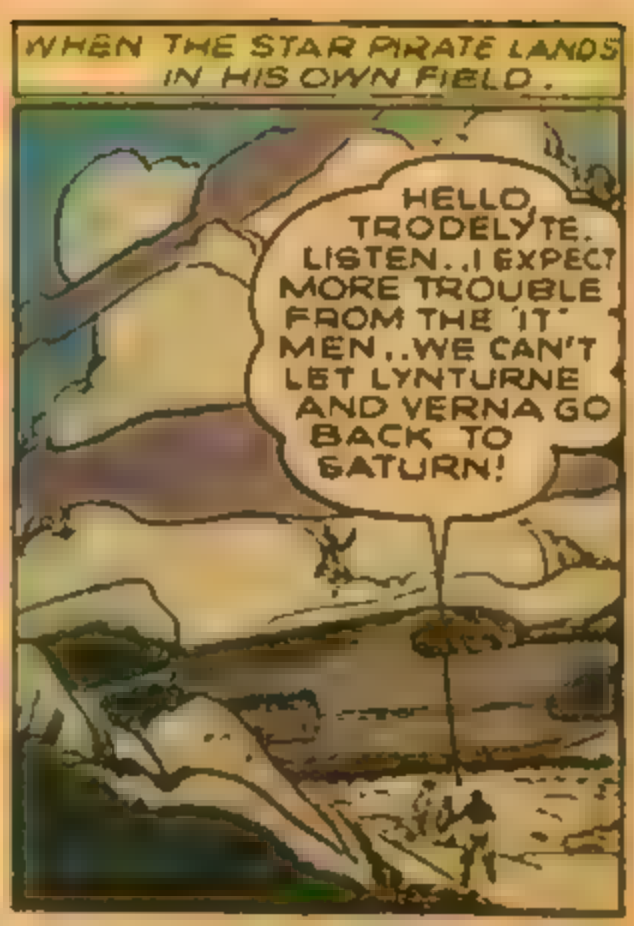
DANGEROUSLY NEAR THE 'IT' HEADQUARTERS, THE STAR PIRATE ATTACKS..

COMPARED TO THE 'IT' SHIP, THE REVENGE IS ARMED LIGHTLY.

I'M GOING TO HAVE TROUBLE CATCHING THIS FISH!

AT LAST HIS RAY CANNON MAKES A DIRECT HIT . . .
GOT HIM!

THE "IT" SHIP CRASHES IN A BLANKET OF FLAME . . .


WHEN THE STAR PIRATE LANDS IN HIS OWN FIELD.
HELLO, TRODELYTE. LISTEN..I EXPECT MORE TROUBLE FROM THE "IT" MEN..WE CAN'T LET LYNTURNE AND VERNA GO BACK TO SATURN!

BUT LYNTURNE'S DAUGHTER EAVESDROPS.
THEY'RE MAKING A SURPRISE ATTACK AGAINST THE "IT'S!

STAR PIRATE, I'M GOING WITH YOU! I WANT TO FIGHT THOSE VILLAINS!
IT'S MIGHTY RISKY, VERNA.

THE GIRL INSISTS . .
WELL, COME ON WE'LL GET OUR SHIPS!

THE STAR PIRATE, IN THE REVENGE, LOOKS DOWN AT THE "IT" HANGARS . .
TOO QUIET DOWN THERE TO BE HEALTHY.

ATTENTION! DIVE FOR AN IMMEDIATE LANDING!

THE ORDER IS SWIFTLY OBEYED.

BEFORE THE "I" HANGAR THEY SEE.

EXPLOSIVES! STOLEN FROM THE 2 SHIPS!

IMMEDIATELY THE STAR PIRATE ORDERS HIS MEN TO LOAD THE MUNITIONS ON HIS SHIPS..

THE "I"'S WILL CERTAINLY BE SURPRISED WHEN THEY FIND THEIR LOOT GONE!

BUT SUDDENLY..

BOOM

SWARMS OF "I" SHIPS ROAR OVERHEAD.

WE SET BOMBS TO GO OFF WHEN THEY WERE LOADED!

THE STAR PIRATE ORDERS HIS MEN TO SAFETY..

THEY'VE TRAPPED US ON THEIR OWN GROUND! QUICK! TO THE HANGARS!

ROLL OUR UNDAMAGED SHIPS IN TOO!

THEY WON'T BOMB THE HANGARS! YOU'LL BE SAFE.

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?

THE STAR PIRATE'S ACTION IS HIS ANSWER..

I'M GOING UP AFTER THEM!

HE HASN'T A CHANCE ALL ALONE..BUT HE DIVES BRAVELY INTO THE "I" MEN'S FORMATION..

THE STAR PIRATE IS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY ENEMY SHIPS AND REVOLVING SATELLITES. . .

I'LL HAVE TO BAIL OUT! NO SENSE IN K.LLING MYSELF!

BUT.

OH-HO! MY MEN ARE ATTACKING THE "IT" MEN FROM THE REAR!

IN SWIFT PURSUIT, THE STAR PIRATES SHIPS TACKLE THE ENEMY.

I KNEW I COULD DEPEND ON THEM!

IN QUICK SUCCESSION TWO "IT" SHIPS FALL.

WHILE THE OTHERS ZOOM AWAY TO WARN THEIR COLLEAGUES WHO ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK "Z" HEADQUARTERS. .

THE STAR PIRATE AND HIS MEN BLOCK THE RETREAT WITH A SHARP VICTORIOUS BATTLE. .

IN LYNTURNE'S SHIP

STAR PIRATE, WE'VE WON! AND WE WANT YOU TO BE OUR ADVISOR!

NOW, IN THE REVENGE

THANKS FOR THE HONOR BUT I'M AFRAID NOT!

LATER.

SORRY TO LEAVE YOU.. BUT I MUST RETURN TO MY BASE!

OH, YOU'LL VISIT US, I'M SURE!

THE STAR PIRATE ZOOMS THROUGH NEW COSMIC PERIL IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS.

NORGE BENSON

by Olaf Bjorn

PENGUIN A.C.

NORGE BENSON AND HIS POLAR BEAR, FROSTING, ARE MAROONED WITH THEIR PENGUIN FRIENDS ON PLUTO, THE PLANET OF ICE AND SNOW.

THE PEACEFUL PENGUINS ARE FISHING

WE'VE GOT THESE DOPEY FISH FOOLED! I COAX 'EM UP, AND YOU BOP 'EM!

DON'T TALK SO MUCH. YOU'LL SCARE 'EM AWAY!

WHILE NEARBY...

WHY DON'T YOU EVER LOOK WHERE YOU'RE GOING, FROSTING?

SUDDENLY A GANG OF HOODLUM PENGUINS SWOOP DOWN FROM THEIR HIDE-OUT IN AN OLD VOLCANO

GANGWAY, BUTCH! LET'S SWIPE THEM FISH!

NAH! I JUST WANNA BAT THE LITTLE PUNKS AROUND!

C'MON, GUYS! GET TO THE FORT!

OH, OH!

NORGE AND THE PENGUINS RUN TO THEIR SNOW FORT UNDER A BARRAGE OF SNOW BALLS..

THE BATTLE RAGES FOR OUCH..

WONDER WHERE THAT BEAR IS?

THAT FORT'S NOT SO SAFE! WE FOR THE HILLS!

HIGH ON A CLIFF, FROSTING WATCHES THE FIGHT...

THOSE HOODLUMS ARE WINNING! I'M GLAD I'M NOT DOWN THERE!

BUT FROSTING SLIPS! ...ROLLS INTO A HUGE SNOW BALL...

...AND LANDS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TOUGH GUYS!

IT'S A RAID!

SCRAM, BOYS!

NICE WORK, FROSTING! AND I THOUGHT YOU HAD RUN AWAY!

IF HE ONLY KNEW.

CLAP CLAMP

THE VICTORY IS CELEBRATED WITH A GREAT FEAST...

NNNN

BETTER TAKE IT EASY, FROSTING, YOU MUST HAVE EATEN A DOZEN FISH!

A DOZEN? H-M-M, HUH! I'M ON MY TWENTY THIRD FISH NOW!

CRUNCH CRUNCH

WOW! I GUESS NORGE WAS RIGHT! I'M SO FULL I CAN HARDLY MOVE! I'D BETTER GO LIE DOWN...

FROSTING FALLS ASLEEP ON A HIGH LEDGE...

MEANWHILE, THE GANGSTERS REPORT TO SLUG, THEIR CHIEF

WHERE'S THA FISH?

NOW, LOOK, SLUG.

SKIP THA DOUBLE-TALK, YA NO GOOD DOPES! I SAW IT ALL! A FINE MOB *YOU* ARE.. LICKED BY A DINKY LITTLE POLAR BEAR!

THERE HE IS, NOW! C'MON YOU BUMS, WE'LL FIX THAT LITTLE MUTT!

QUIET, NOW! WE'LL PUT THA SNATCH ON 'EM WHILE HE'S ASLEEP!

BOY, IS HE HEAVY!

YEAH, WIT' THA FISH I SENT *YOU* AFTER! HURRY UP!

FROSTING IS TAKEN TO THE VOLCANO HIDE-OUT

. . .AND PUT IN AN ICICLE CAGE . . .

GYP ME OUT OF MY FISH, WILL YOU? WELL, BUD, I'LL HAVE BEAR STEAK FOR DINNER, THEN!

BEAR STEAK? BEAR STEAK?.. WHY HE MUST MEAN ME!

AN' FOIDERMORE, WISE GUY, IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE A NEW FUR COAT, GET ME?

MEANWHILE, NORGE HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR FROSTING. . . .

HERE ARE THE TRACKS OF THOSE THUGS, AND A SLED! THEY'VE KIDNAPED FROSTING!

AS NORGE AND THE ANGRY PENGUINS REACH THE EDGE OF THE CRATER . . . .

GET SET, BOYS.. WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

C'MON, LET'S GET THAT CHEAP CROOK!

CHEAP, EH? TAKE THAT, YOU RAT!

SLUG??

MISTER SLUG TO YOU!

SOCKO!

NORGE FALLS INTO THE CRATER!

GOOD OLD NORGE, I KNEW HE'D COME TO SAVE ME!

NORGE CRASHES INTO FROSTING'S CAGE . . . BREAKING THE ICICLE BARS.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, NORGE

TRYIN' TO CHISEL ME OUT OF ME BEAR STEAK, EH?.. YOU THINK!

SLUG PRIES OFF THE HUGE BALL OF SNOW..

. . . AND STARTS AN AVALANCHE, WHICH SWEEPS NORGE, FROSTING, SLUG AND HIS GANG ALL DOWN INTO THE CRATER. . .

SUDDENLY

THE VOLCANO, WHICH HAS BEEN QUIET FOR YEARS, ERUPTS IN A GREAT FOUNTAIN OF SNOW AND ICE.

DOWN THE OUTSIDE OF THE VOLCANO..

MAYBE WE CAN SAVE NORGE AND FROSTING!

THEY ALL DIG FRANTICALLY..

IT'S SLUG!

KONK

LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY?

A LOT OF HELP YOU'VE BEEN!

FROSTING has a BIRTH DAY PARTY in the next PLANET COMICS

6

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